

A N O j u s t

invoking my right

Posted in [musings](#) on October 4, 2010 by [silverylizard](#)

im sure this wont be one of my most popular posts. however, i have some strong feelings about it, and i want to air them out.

im talking about my right to breathe smokeless air. i hear so often from smokers that they have a right to smoke if they want to. i agree most heartily. it is, in fact, their lungs, their heart, their blood, and their personal surroundings, and they can subject them to whatever substance they choose. legal or not. but their right to breathe tobacco smoke, or any other smoke, ends where my right not to begins. and this is where i have the contention.

i feel smoking should be illegal anywhere but in ones home or ones private vehicle, with the windows closed. i feel strongly this way because, although you can confine the smoker to a designated area (ideally), you cannot confine the smoke. so, when i drive somewhere, *i* have to keep *my* windows up to keep from having to breathe the smoke wafting around at so many red lights, or in slow traffic, or in the parking lot at work. but *they* dont have to keep *theirs* up to comply with my rights. when my neighbors smoke on their porches, *i* have to close *my* windows, and be denied the fresh outside air, because they want to smoke outside. my other choice is to breathe it, against my will, in spite of how it effects me, my clothes, my hair, or my belongings. or my pets.

my contention with this habit of others is due to the fact that, as i said before, you cannot confine the smoke to a designated area. if you drink, then drink to your hearts content. your beer or wine or whatever will not leap from your glass into mine. if you indulge in porn, then enjoy. your images will not float from your pages or your screen into my eyes. but if you smoke, your smoke will float, waft, and blow as the air carries it. i should not have to dodge it to avoid having to breathe it.

perhaps i wouldnt be so hot about the matter if it werent for all the jackasses who chose to light up

from here to eternity

October 2010

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what people are saying



Rocket Man on [invoking my right](#)



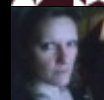
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right outside the doorways of businesses, out by their cars as they fuel up, or in their cars with their windows all down in the parking lots.

before you start in on me, understand that in my teens i was a heavy smoker. i chain smoked three packs a day for two or three years. and still, i was conscientious of how it might effect other people. many of my peers at school were as well. and we were teenagers. but people today are not so mindful of others. adults, who should know better, and should have manners at least basic, and yet they are the first to cry foul if anyone complains. they are the first to claim rights when someone protests. not all, im know, but so many.

sigh. i just get so sick of smelling it. and in oklahoma, there are more smokers than nonsmokers.

bleh.

google Tags: [smoking](#),[breathe easy](#),[ciggarettes](#),[rights](#)

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Krispy Kreme Burger Among Treats At Tulsa State Fair - NewsOn6.com - Tulsa, OK - News, Weather, Video and Sports - KOTV.com |

Posted in [musings](#) on October 1, 2010 by [silverylizard](#)



"Tastes like a doughnut and a hamburger," said one woman.

[Krispy Kreme Burger Among Treats At Tulsa State Fair - NewsOn6.com - Tulsa, OK - News, Weather, Video and Sports - KOTV.com |](#)

and for desert ... fried butter.
seriously.

i think im going to puke ...

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what i said was ...

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A silent majority | Tulsa World

Posted in [musings](#) on September 12, 2010 by [silverylizard](#)

[A silent majority | Tulsa World](#)

this would be me and the beau ...

google Tags: [silent majority](#)

4 Comments »

i dont feel like a hero

Posted in [my life](#) on September 12, 2010 by [silverylizard](#)

but evidently thats what we are. well the beau mostly.

it all began yesterday when he and the lady who is doing our sale were getting things separated and ready to be priced. around 3pm i think, he decided to go get a sandwich. so off he went to quiznos, and then to quik trip for lottery tickets and smoe m&ms for me. on the way back he saw an elderly man walking up the road 2 to 4 feet out into traffic, rather than on the grassy shoulder. tulsa isnt pedestrian friendly, and there are few sidewalks. the streets are full of potholes and inattentive drivers as well. this, plus the mans large sunglasses and blue umbrella quite caught his attention. he came back to the house to get me, and my camera, to prove that what he saw was real. well, i would have believed him, but im glad he came and got me. we followed him as he walked north, and was heading for a busy intersection right by the fairgrounds.

i started insisting the beau call the police, because there was obviously something not right, and the mans gait was - distracted - as he frequently stopped to look around. beau was hesitant at first, as our police - and dispatchers - are often very lacking in commitment. but i insisted more, so he did. fortunately the old man stopped at the intersection and pressed the button for the walk signal. and waited. he had already nearly been clipped by the heavy traffic once. or twice. like many people, he didnt wait for the walk light. he started to cross when the lights turned, putting him in the way of left turn traffic. nearly clipped again.

we circled around, and stopped where the old guy was now. he was now on a sidewalk, built along side the water park on the east side of the fairgrounds. i started a conversation with him, as the beau called the police a second time to make sure the officer dispatched could find us. both times he got a dispatcher who was caring and

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concerned, and the officer was on the way.

as i talked with the man, he seemed lucid, but all his conversation centered around his old home, and the business he used to own. he was going up to see his old house, he said. it had a chimney with a big S on it, but it wasnt an S, it was a windbreaker. hmmm. he lived with his son, and oh yes his son knew he was out. i bet not. i told him the street was dangerous, and he sai yes, he would be careful, and not cross it. then he tottered off, stopping to pick something up out in the street. yup - nearly hit again. then he crossed the southbound lanes, and made it to the center median. still trying to pick up stuff in the road he thought was a danger to traffic. just as he walked away from me, a young kid, about 18, pulled up, and said he was going to try to walk with the guy till the police arrived. we went to pull a u-turn and just then the officer arrived. i didnt see it, but just as he pulled up to the old man, the old man stepped out in front of a car and then fell. he wasnt hurt, or hit, but he did break his giant sunglasses, and scraped his leg. the officer, officer urban, got him off the road and up into the parking lot of the businesses across from the water park. he also called an ambulance to check out the old guy. we parked, and came up to listen to the conversation, in which the poor old man was now clearly upset, and more confused. he asked officer urban if the piece of old cardboard out in the road had been squished out of him when he fell. he thought he was under arrest. he didnt know where he lived. officer urban asked him if he had a wallet, which he did. the officer said it was a wise man who had put this in the wallet - im guessing information on where the old guy lived and contact numbers. officer urban called the son, who was going to come pick him up, and i think the ambulance techs took him to a hospital. we thanked the officer for being truly kind and very helpful, and seeing this through. he could have just told the guy to be careful and sent him on his way. many would have. he went the extra mile.

probably saved the old guys life.

i was going to get pictures of him, and everything else, but chose not to. turns out he was once a prominent business owner here, and now he is 90 yrs old and obviously suffering from alzheimer's. a lot of people probably know him and his family. i didnt want to give up his identity for that reason. maybe im being silly, but ...



officer urban

google Tags: [alzheimers](#),[officer urban](#),[tulsa police](#)

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nine eleven ten

Posted in [musings](#) on September 11, 2010 by [silverylizard](#)

i wonder what kind of policies, laws, and programs would be implemented if our politicians were to live like constituents after their terms were over. if they werent set for the rest of their lives with health care, retirement, and all the other perks they get that insulate them from normal life in america after even one term in office, i think their decisions, their actions, and their agendas would be very different. i dont think that many senators or representatives, governors, mayors, judges, or other titles, care much for the people who have to live with their decisions. those that do are likely so out of touch with reality that it doesnt matter if they care.

but thats just something i was thinking about recently.

we're currently gearing up for an estate sale to get things out of the house, making the coming move much easier. we have a couple helping us, actually doing it for us mostly, because thats what they do.

my car is in the shop getting fixed, and will be ready thursday. the rental car benefit from our car insurance will pay us \$50 a day whether we rent a car or not. nine days. thats almost the whole deductible. thats a blessing! and it will be a boon to my credit when i pay the credit card bill before i even get a statement.

i think its deliberate spit in the face that there is in the works to build a mosque so close to ground zero, and so close to the anniversary of the worst attack on this country since pearl harbor. there is nothing subtle about it.

but i am also dismayed that a pastor made a public display about burning the quran. its not that i believe in all that tolerance poppycock. i do not. it isnt possible to live in tolerance with people who want you dead. back in the sixties and seventies, when people were so world peace minded, i always said 'get the russians to go first'. now i say the same thing about religious tolerance. see if muhammad will tolerate the western christian first. but thats not my point here. that pastor, by making his public display of planning to burn the quran, only incited those that see us as stupid dogs and want us destroyed. many of whom may have nothing to do with the building of the mosque in question. all he did was make a spectacle of himself and his little flock. all he did was exhibit his opinion. and in so doing kicked the hornets nest.

my bible says we wrestle not against flesh and blood (ephesians 6:12). and we do not war after the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God (II corinthians 10:3-4). muhammad is not the enemy. the devil and his lot are.

i am so glad this week is over! our four day work week felt like seven days. im still not caught up. im not sure i will be again, as long as the pace keeps up the way its been.

i need a long walk on the beach!

google Tags: quran burning,tolerance,car insurance,moving sale

34 Comments »

death of a landmark

Posted in [musings](#) on September 6, 2010 by [silverylizard](#)

<http://www.newson6.com/global/story.asp?s=13098236>

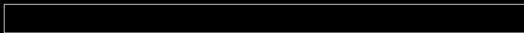
sad to see something like this go down. but nothing lasts forever ...

adtwain lot



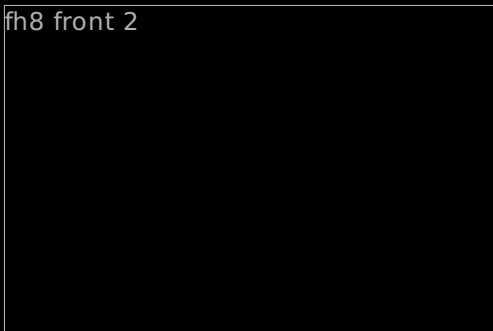
another wood construct went up in flames in portland when i was a child. that was a horrendous fire, as i remember. it was the portland forestry building, which was destroyed in

and forestry building, which was destroyed in 1964.



then there is this fire house in tulsa, built in 1905, and remodeled in 1967. i housed firefighters until 1993, and then housed the public works environmental operations division. they moved out in december. looks like its going to be sold as surplus.

fh8 front 2



fh8 no parking





google Tags: [icons](#),[landmarks](#),[fires](#)

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collide o scope

Posted in [my life](#) on September 4, 2010 by [silverylizard](#)

last tuesday rocked my world a bit. i was sitting at a red light, with one car ahead of me. its a long light, as there are several directions of cars going through. but im patient. im on schedule on my way to work. im not playing with my phone, or reaching for anything.

then the totally undesirable happens. my foot slips off the break pedal, and of course hits the gas with force. not a great deal of force, but enough to send me into the car in front of me. BAM!

it was an 'oh shit!' moment. it got worse when i got out of my car to see if the other driver was ok. she was, but she was 9 months pregnant. *wanting to sink into the pavement*. thats the kind of stress that unhooks my brain, and the thoughts - with no tracks to follow - get log jammed in the middle of my head and just swirl around

aimlessly. so there i am, an otherwise bright woman capable of multitasking under pressure at work all day long, capable of seeing the best path through after only a moment of consideration, just standing there like an idiot. i did know i had to exchange information, but i had trouble finding it, finding a pen, finding paper, writing. i managed, and then as i gave her my info, she said she called 911 because she was so far along and had hit the steering wheel. i understood that, and she didnt seem nearly as rattled as i was. perhaps if i had been the one hit i would have been calmer too. after all the emergency personnel arrived, and she seemed ok, they left and she did not. i was relieved for that.

i got a citation for inattentive driving, which i plan to contest. i also filed my insurance claim, which is going to take care of the car. hers only had a small dent in the rear bumper. mine? the plastic bumper cam off, and had to be put in back seat. i can pick it up with three fingers, its so light. jeez. we get half the \$500 deductible with the rental car allowance, since we have two cars. we will have it back by next weekend.



so its not looking so bad at this point ...

google Tags: [minor car wreck](#)

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en español?

Posted in [musings](#) on August 31, 2010 by silverylizard

how interesting ...

i went to check my comments, now that i can find them, and all the headers were in spanish.

comentarios recientes sobre tu espacio

ver: comentarios de espacios

todos los comentarios y notas

comentarios de fotos

comentarios de archivos

comentarios de espacios

all the comments were in english, as was the page title. just the headers were in spanish.

huh. you just never know what to expect here ...

google Tags: [spanish](#),[spaces](#)

[20 Comments »](#)

conviction vs condemnation

Posted in [musings](#) on August 29, 2010 by silverylizard

is there a difference?

i didnt used to think so. i used to be very self condemning. i grew up catholic, in a home where shame was used as the prime motivator. but before you get up in arms, this isnt anti catholicism. its just my experience of growing up in a household of a catholic grandmother and a catholic mother. and me.

my mom loved me. of that i have no doubt. but she used guilt to correct me rather than swatting my behind when she wanted to modify my behavior. i guess she thought she was protecting my psyche by not physically striking me. instead, she undermined my self confidence by striking my ego with suggestions that i was not fit as a person if i was capable of doing this or saying that. there was no real standard, and i was never given clear rules. rather, i learned how to navigate through life based on her reactions. it was her subtle expressions of distain and disapproval that got the message to me. she could show disappointment in a way that would strike my heart. only thing is, i usually felt like it was me she was disappointed in, not what i did or said. it makes remembering a clear example really difficult. because it was more

a lifestyle – an environment that i lived in – than good honest discipline. it must have effected me in very profound ways, because i was always among the most unpopular kids at school, to the point that i hated school with everything in me. i was stressed most of the time, because i felt so inferior. and let me tell you, catholic rich kids can pick up on that and they will goad you till you die inside because of it. when i complained to my mother about the ridicule at school, she always quickly solved the mystery of why by telling me it was because i was too bossy. it didnt help that she was chased home by kids who threw rocks at her and called her ‘cat licker’, from the public school she went to. likely why she came up with the money to send me to catholic school.

this mind set followed me through my teens, into my rebellious era, and into my commitment to God when i gave my life to Jesus. now the Lord gave me much joy in my heart, and i could see from His word that His love was unconditional. i also started going to a very good church, where the Word was taught rather than religious concepts. also i have always been adventurous, and keen to know why things need to be this way or that way. in spite of my mothers ‘floating eyebrows’ of disapproval, she was always good at explaining to me why, when it didnt involve my discipline. so i began to have a good foundation built into my heart of Gods way, and His Word.

if only i could get rid of this shadow of constant inferiority. but it had been instilled in me that this was how good people thought, and that to have confidence was the same as being vain and conceited. and so ... although i knew God loved me without condition, i never knew if He was pleased with me. i have never been a people pleaser in the usual sense of the term. yet still, who want to feel like their ultimately going to be a disappointment? thats corrosion in the soul.

well, one day i was sitting in my room, feeling actually quite terrified that i was going to lose all my reward in heaven, and maybe even be cut off from God, because i wasnt living up to His expectations, or my potential, or whatever. i was honestly close to having a panic attack over it. it wasnt called that back then – but it felt just as frightening. it all centered around the passage in the gospels about the branch bearing fruit or being cut off. i felt my life was very fruitless.

here is where the difference between the letter of the law and the Spirit of the Word comes into focus. and the difference between conviction and condemnation was made clear to me in a way i will never forget.

the Holy Spirit broke into my thoughts as i was reeling under the fear, and He said ‘the fruit of the Spirit ...’. thats all he said. thats all i needed to hear. i realized at that moment it was His fruit, not mine. He would bring it forth as i yielded to Him.

it was not a matter of me doing to please Him, it was a matter of me realizing my new identity in Him, and walking in it. like an apple tree makes no effort to produce apples ... it is a by product of being an apple tree. as long as it is watered and cared for, it will produce apples.

not long after this i began to see that condemnation was a religious idea, not a scriptural one. condemnation is general, vague, and points the finger at the individual. therefore, there can be no solution, because there is no clear problem. you feel as though you are the problem, but have no idea how to fix it. so you are left with always trying harder, and never feeling secure that you have ever done enough. fear is the motivating factor behind it, and it keeps your focus locked on yourself. the exact opposite of what God desires for us.

conviction, on the other hand, is extremely clear and specific. it points to an action, an intent, or a purpose. something you did or are about to do. its clear about what is wrong with it, and what to do to fix it. either repent or refrain. and then the matter is done. it does not linger, or haunt you. its motivating factor is love, because when the Holy Spirit brings conviction to your soul, you may for a moment feel sorrow, but the sorrow is brief because you know its because He loves you, not so He will love you. because you know He loves you, you want to fix it. there is no nagging uncertainty that you havent done enough, or done the right thing. there is no guess work involved at all.

it makes all the difference in the world.

google Tags: [condemnation](#),[conviction](#),[regligion](#),[Gods Word](#)

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antirepuscular rays ... how romantic!

Posted in [my life](#) on August 21, 2010 by [silverylizard](#)

last night's visual delights

crepuscular and antirepuscular rays

DSC_0075





hummingbird



moon



google Tags: [sun rays](#), [hummingbird](#), [moon](#)

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